

*Life A-Go-Go*

# **Questions to Ask When Hiring a Professional Organizer**



### ***Think About Your Goals and Concerns:***

- What areas of your home do you want the organizer to help with (it's okay if you are not sure)?
  - What space or situation feels most urgent right now?
  - Am I looking for decluttering, systems, maintenance, or a fresh start?
  - Do I want quick relief, long-term solutions, or both?
- What are you struggling with in terms of getting organized (i.e. hard time making decisions on what to donate, need help optimizing your space, motivation, a physical or mental barrier?)
- What would success look like to you?
- Are you okay with photos or videos of your space being taken and used by the Professional Organizer for their business and/or social media?
- Do you know your organizing style or what has and has not worked for you in the past?
- How hands on do you want to be in the process?
- What kind of emotional support would feel best?
  - Do I want someone gentle, encouraging, motivating, or highly practical?
  - Am I working through sentimental items, life transitions, or grief clutter?
- *Communicate to the Professional Organizer if any of these apply to you:*
  - Are there pets/animals in the home?
  - Are there any sensitive, hazardous, or health-related items they should be aware of so everyone stays safe and comfortable?
  - Who will be home during the organizing session? If your family is involved do they have any questions or concerns in advance of the visit.
  - Are there any boundaries about rooms, belongings, or areas you'd like respected?

### ***When Selecting a Professional Organizers:***

- Style & Approach (aka Are you the right type of organizer for me?)
  - Do you focus more on functional organizing, aesthetic organizing, or a blend?
  - How would you describe your organizing philosophy?
  - What kinds of clients or situations do you work best with?
  - How do you design systems that work for real life — not just perfect spaces?
- What will this experience be like?
  - Can you walk me through your process from consultation to session to follow-up?
  - Do you offer a site visit or space review before starting? What does that include?
  - How do you decide where to begin if I'm unsure?
  - Will we work together, or do you work more independently?
  - What happens if I disagree with a suggestion or something doesn't feel right?

- Decision-Making & Emotional Support
  - Will you ever force me to get rid of items?
  - How do you support clients who feel emotional, overwhelmed, or sentimental?
  - How do you help people who struggle with indecision or decision fatigue?
  
- Do you understand my specific needs? Do you have experience with \_\_\_\_? This could include things like: Neurodivergence (ADHD, executive function challenges); Downsizing or transitional organizing; Combining households; Families with kids; Paperwork-heavy homes or home offices; Small businesses or entrepreneurs
  
- What services do you offer, and what's outside your scope?
  - Do you offer cleaning, or do you partner with cleaners?
  - Do you coordinate with junk haulers, contractors, or other professionals if needed?
  - Do you have trusted referrals if the project expands beyond organizing?
  - Do you have a team or other organizers if my project requires it?
  
- Pricing, Insurance & Logistics
  - What is your payment structure (hourly, packages, by space)? Do you offer a multi-session discount?
  - What is your minimum session length?
  - Do you charge for travel, prep time, or shopping?
    - Will you provide recommendations for containers/bins/etc. that I can purchase on my own?
    - Do you have any professional discounts that would apply to my project?
  - Do you carry liability insurance?
  - Do you offer maintenance or follow-up sessions?
  - If not local to you, will they travel or offer Zoom/Phone sessions?
  - If I have a quick question, can I contact you after the session and if so what are the costs associated with that?
  
- Privacy, Photos & Confidentiality
  - How do you protect my home and my privacy?
  - What is your approach to client confidentiality?
  - Will you take photos or video of my home? If so, what are they used for? Is there a release to sign? Can I opt out completely?
  
- Trust, References & Overall Fit
  - Do you have references or testimonials I can review?
  - How do you stay trained or current in your field?
  - If my situation isn't the right fit, would you refer me to someone else?

*Remember, you're not just hiring someone to organize your space — you're inviting someone into your routines, your home, and often your emotions.*

Check out our full video on Hiring A Professional Organizer here: <https://youtu.be/OIYFODgqxmM>

## ***Need More Support?***

You can email us at [Hello@Life-A-Go-Go.com](mailto:Hello@Life-A-Go-Go.com) to have your questions answered for free on our monthly lives, or you can hire either one of us to help with your organization issues:

 A circular portrait of Adriane McGraw, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a dark blazer over a purple top and a colorful necklace.	<p><b><i>Adriane McGraw of Paper &amp; Progress</i></b> <a href="http://PaperandProgress.com">PaperandProgress.com</a> 217-255-3122</p> <p>Helping individuals get organized through practical home systems, paper management, and clutter reduction that bring ease and clarity to everyday life. Also supports digital organization, workflow optimization, and workplace paperwork — including employee files and annual review preparation — for those needing structure beyond the home. Certified in Organize 365® Paper Solutions &amp; Friday Workbox® and Clutterbug®, Adriane creates sustainable systems that reduce overwhelm and make organization feel achievable.</p>
 A circular portrait of Mary Sommer, a woman with blonde hair and glasses, wearing a black top.	<p><b><i>Mary Sommer of Squared Away Mary</i></b> <a href="http://SquaredAwayMary.com">SquaredAwayMary.com</a></p> <p>Mary empowers everyday people to declutter and create functional, realistic systems that actually work in real life — not just on Pinterest. Drawing from her own journey of learning organization step by step, she brings empathy, encouragement, and practical strategies to those who feel overwhelmed or don't know where to start. Mary specializes in helping clients sort through their belongings, develop personalized storage solutions, and build simple habits that keep spaces comfortable and manageable. Her relatable, judgment-free approach makes asking for help easier and turns getting organized into a sustainable gift you give yourself.</p>